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5. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene comprises particles whose average particle size is in the range of from about 10 nm to about 5000 nm, and which particles are substantially uniformly distributed in the polymer composition.

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13. (Amended) The polymer composition of claim 1 wherein the composition consists essentially of a blend of at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene, and at least one metal carboxylate salt catalyst.

14. (Amended) The polymer composition of claim 1 wherein the composition consists essentially of a reaction product of at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene, and at least one metal carboxylate salt catalyst.

15. (Amended) An oxygen barrier film comprising a layer of a polymer composition which consists essentially of:

- at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer;
- at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene; and
- at least one metal salt catalyst.

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19. (Amended) A multilayer article which comprises:

- a polymer composition layer consisting essentially of at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer; at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene; and at least one metal salt catalyst; and
- a thermoplastic polymer layer on one or both sides of the polymer composition layer.

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24. (Amended) A shaped article which comprises a polymer composition which consists essentially of:

- at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer;

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- b) at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene; and
c) at least one metal salt catalyst.

27. (Amended) A process for producing a polymer composition which comprises:

- a) melting at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer;
b) blending the molten copolymer with at least one oxidizable [polydiene] epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene and at least one metal salt catalyst to thereby form a mixture which consists essentially of the ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene and metal salt catalyst; and
c) cooling the mixture.

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29. (Amended) A process for producing an oxygen barrier film which comprises:

- a) melting at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer;
b) blending the molten copolymer with at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene and at least one metal salt catalyst to thereby form a mixture which consists essentially of the ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene and metal salt catalyst;
c) extruding, casting or blowing the mixture into a film; and
d) cooling the film.

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32. (Amended) A process for producing an oxygen barrier polymer film which comprises:

- a) melting a composition which consists essentially of at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer; at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene; and at least one metal salt catalyst;
b) extruding, casting or blowing the composition into a film; and
c) cooling the film.

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33. (Amended) A process for producing a multilayer article which comprises

- a) melting at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer; at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene; and at least one metal salt catalyst to thereby form a

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mixture which consists essentially of the ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene and metal salt catalyst;

- b) separately melting a thermoplastic polymer composition;
- c) coextruding, casting, blowing, thermoforming, blow molding or coinjecting the mixture and thermoplastic polymer composition into a multilayer article; and
- d) cooling the article.

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36. (Amended) The process of claim 33 wherein said copolymer is melted prior to blending with said oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene.

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37. (Amended) The process of claim 33 wherein said copolymer and said oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene are melted after blending.

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39. (Amended) A process for producing a multilayer article which comprises:

- a) melting at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer; at least one oxidizable epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene; and at least one metal salt catalyst to thereby form a mixture which consists essentially of the ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, epoxy or anhydride functional polybutadiene and metal salt catalyst;
- b) separately melting a thermoplastic polymer composition;
- c) coinjecting molding the mixture and thermoplastic polymer composition into a multilayer preform;
- d) reheating the preform; and
- e) blow molding the preform into a multilayer article.

Please add the following claims:

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41. (New) An oxygen-scavenging polymer composition which comprises:

- a) at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer;
- b) at least one oxidizable, anhydride functional polybutadiene; and
- c) at least one metal salt catalyst.

42. (New) The composition of claim 41 wherein the oxidizable, anhydride functional polybutadiene comprises particles which are substantially uniformly distributed in the polymer composition.

43. (New) The composition of claim 41 wherein the oxidizable, anhydride functional polybutadiene comprises particles whose average particle size is in the range of from about 10 nm to about 5000 nm, and which particles are substantially uniformly distributed in the polymer composition.

44. (New) The composition of claim 41 further comprising a basic catalyst.

45. (New) The composition of claim 41 further comprising a clay.

*All
Claims*

46. (New) The composition of claim 41 wherein the composition comprises a blend of at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, at least one oxidizable, anhydride functional polybutadiene and at least one metal carboxylate salt catalyst.

47. (New) The composition of claim 41 wherein the composition comprises a reaction product of at least one ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer, at least one oxidizable, anhydride functional polybutadiene and at least one metal carboxylate salt catalyst.

48. (New) An oxygen barrier film comprising a layer of a polymer composition of claim 41.

49. (New) A multilayer article which comprises the polymer composition of claim 41.

50. (New) A shaped article which comprises the polymer composition of claim 41.

Cancel claims 2 and 3.